

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 625

By Swann

A RESOLUTION to propose an amendment to Article II of the Constitution of Tennessee to extend the length of terms and limit the number of terms members of the House of Representatives may serve.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that a majority of all the members of each house concurring, as shown by the yeas and nays entered on their journals, that it is proposed that the Constitution of Tennessee be amended as follows:

By deleting the second sentence of Article II, Section 3, and substituting instead the following:

Representatives elected prior to the general election in November 2016 in districts designated by even numbers shall hold office for two years from the day of the general election. Representatives elected at or after the general election in November 2016 in districts designated by even numbers shall hold office for four years from the day of the general election. Representatives elected prior to the general election in November 2018 in districts designated by odd numbers shall hold office for two years from the day of the general election. Representatives elected at or after the general election in November 2018 in districts designated by odd numbers shall hold office for four years from the day of the general election. Senators shall hold office for four years from the day of the general election. The Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, each shall hold his or her office as Speaker for two years or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

AND FURTHER AMEND by adding the following language immediately after the existing language of Article II, Section 3:

Beginning with the general election in November 2016, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 2, 14, 26, 38, 50, 62, 74, 86, or 98 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2018, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 1, 13, 25, 37, 49, 61, 73, 85, or 97 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2020, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 4, 16, 28, 40, 52, 64, 76, or 88 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2022, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 3, 15, 27, 39, 51, 63, 75, 87, or 99 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2024, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, or 90 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2026, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 5, 17, 29, 41, 53, 65, 77, or 89 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2028, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 8, 20, 32, 44, 56, 68, 80, or 92 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2030, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 7, 19, 31, 43, 55, 67, 79, or 91 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2032, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 10, 22, 34, 46, 58, 70, 82, or 94 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2034, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 9, 21, 33, 45, 57, 69, 81, or 93 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2036, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, or 96 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

Beginning with the general election in November 2038, no person elected to the office of representative to represent district 11, 23, 35, 47, 59, 71, 83, or 95 shall serve more than three four-year terms representing any district in the house of representatives.

The time served by any person elected to one or more two-year terms or elected or appointed to serve less than a full term to fill a vacancy shall not be included in the limitation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the foregoing be referred to the One Hundred Eighth General Assembly and that this resolution proposing such amendment be published by the Secretary of State in accordance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to deliver a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State.